

American Review of EASTERN ORTHODOXY





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AROUND THE WORLD WITH THE CHURCH

FOREIGN

CHINESE VERSION OF KORAN PUBLISHED IN FORMOSA. Seven years of work by Shih e-chou, senior advisor to President Chiang Kai-shek, completed the translation of the Koran into Chinese. It is being printed on behalf of some 40,000 Moslems in Formosa, who expect to open their first mosque in Taipei next year.

Half of the 40,000 Moslems are refugees from the mainland; most of the native Formosans having only the vaguest idea of the teachings of the Prophet.

\$1,000,000 will be the cost of the new mosque and the funds are being raised by the Islamic Federation of China. Iraqi Crown Prince Abdul Ilah gave \$1,000, when he visited Formosa last November.

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ISRAELI CABINET TO STUDY BURIAL ARRANGEMENTS. A special committee has been created by the Israeli Cabinet to review the entire question of burial thruout Israel.

The Cabinet acted after the burial society at Pardess Hanna had refused to bury a five-year-old boy inside the town's Jewish cemetery. The boy was the child of a gentile mother. He died of polio and was buried outside the cemetery, after the local rabbi refused to give permission for him to have a grave within the cemetery bounds. The incident aroused such a nationwide controversy, that the town was forced to create a special municipal cemetery, open to all; it was here that the boy was finally buried.

Apparently no matter what the climate, the culture, the nation, or the religion, narrow minded bigotry knows no bounds. - ED.

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SERBIAN ORTHODOX BISHOP CONDEMNS 'ROCK 'N ROLL'. Bishop Vasilije of Banja Luka issued a denunciation of 'rock 'n roll' and similar dances as 'immoral and barbarous', and asked parents to keep their children away from places where they are performed.

He said rock 'n roll songs and dances so infect dancers and performers that 'many often reel or, with great uproar, jump and hop as if they were in a jungle'.

The bishop said the dances bring participants to a state of 'ecstasy and insanity in which they commit the most indecent and immoral acts'.

Bishop Vasilije said lack of education, plus such immoral dances, 'have led young people to crimes and murder'. He noted that in Greece 'rock 'roll' has been officially condemned by the Orthodox Church.



ARAB CONSECRATED BISHOP IN ANGLICAN CHURCH. The Rt. Rev. Najib Cubain was consecrated in Jerusalem as the first Arab Bishop of the new Anglican Diocese of Jordan, Lebanon and Syria.

The service was conducted in St. George's Collegiate Church and was witnessed by a great array of ecclesiastical and civil dignitaries.

The new bishop had previously been chairman of the Arabic Evangelical Episcopal Council for Palestine and Transjordan.

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GREEK FACULTY REQUESTS POPE TO CEASE INTERFERENCE IN GREECE. The faculty of the Greek Orthodox Theological School at the University of Athens has issued a written request to Pope Pius XII, in Rome, to cease appointing 'Apostolic Exarchs for the Byzantine Rite Catholics in Greece'. The last appointee, Bishop George Calavassy, died last November, at the age of 76.

The theologians contended that the existence of Greek Rite Catholics in Greece disrupts the unity of the Greek people and harms relations between the Eastern Orthodox and Roman Catholic Churches.

They said that one of the greatest obstacles to 'approach and cooperation' between Orthodox and Catholic Churches is the Unia, or Greek Rite Catholicism acting as an organ of Roman Catholicism.

'As a first step toward gradually removing this obstacle for the approach of the two Churches the letter continued, 'the Theological School addresses a warm appeal to your Holiness, Pope of Elder Rome, not to appoint a successor to the late Greek Rite Bishop George Calavassy of Teodoropoli.'

The Orthodox theologians said they were not motivated by an intolerant spirit but by 'a pure Christian and ancient Catholic one, which has always inspired the great Popes of Rome, as well as the great Fathers of the Church and the Ecumenical Councils - a spirit wonderfully exemplified by Pope Gregory the Great, Vincent of Lerins, Photius the Great, and Pope John VIII of Rome.'

'Therefore,' the group said, 'we address to you this present request, inspired by the ancient Catholic spirit of love, peace and mutual respect, and hoping that the venerable and wise head of the Elder Rome will give favorable ear to it and make the proper salutary decision.'

The letter was signed by Prof. Gregory Konidaris, dean of the Theological School, on behalf of the faculty.

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TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY TO OFFER DEGREES FOR HOLY LAND STUDIES. Bachelor Degrees for studies in Christian, Moslem and Jewish holy places thruout the Middle East are a part of the plan for the next academic year.

Dr. Shmuel Z. Cahana, director of the Israeli Ministry for Religious Affairs, will head the new program, which will be a part of the Dep't. of the Humanities. Three years of study will be requisite for a degree.

According to Abraham Peri, acting rector of the university, the aim of the courses will be to train scholars for research. He also said the new department was expected to promote inter creedal understanding as both Christian and Moslem scholars will be invited to lecture and conduct classes.

Experts on Moslem and Christian holy places are now cooperating with Jewish scholars

preparing a program of study and a reference library is being assembled. Material from ancient sources is being compiled for study of the origins of legends and traditions; how the traditionally accepted holy sites were determined; and how customs peculiar to certain of the shrines arose.

Dr. Cahana said the answers to many of these questions were to be found in rabbinic literature. He added that, unfortunately, Talmud scholars have considered the historic aspects of the Talmud 'frivolous', while historians did not delve deeply enough into that source.

He also deplored the fact that interest in Jewish holy places lagged in Israel. Thousands of Israelis today, he said, passed by, without interest, such places of extraordinary religious and historic interest as the cave, near a major highway, where Elijah is believed to have hidden from King Ahab and Jezebel.

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ALBERT SCHWEITZER'S GRANDDAUGHTER GOES TO LAMBERENE. Monique Eckert, 21-year old granddaughter of Dr. Albert Schweitzer, left France with the famed medical missionary to work as a nurse for ten months in his hospital at Lamberene, French Equatorial Africa.

Monique had been impatiently waiting for this day, because her grandfather had promised to take her with him, on her 18th birthday.

After her ten month period is up, she will return to Europe for a year. If, at the end of that time, she wishes to return to Lamberene, neither her mother or grandfather will oppose her. But, both are said to favor Monique being somewhat more mature before deciding to make nursing in Lamberene her career.

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ORTHODOX THEOLOGIAN ARRESTED IN BELGRADE. Dr. Dragoslav Stranjakovic, professor at the Orthodox Theological School of Belgrade University, was arrested Dec. 2nd on charges of conducting anti-State propaganda. His arrest was smothered in secrecy for some weeks, but was just recently proclaimed in the local papers.

The charges, as reported, said he was one of a group of persons taken into custody for contacting Chetnik emigres abroad and sending them material for publication in foreign papers, branded as 'compromising the present social organization of Yugoslavia'.

Prof. Stranjakovic, 56, is believed by some, however, to be the real author of an anti-Communist book about Yugoslavia, which was just published by his nephew, who is living in exile in Switzerland. It is believed that authorities consider him as the author and feel that he smuggled the manuscript out of Yugoslavia to his nephew.

The theologian, a well-known Yugoslavian historian, was a professor at Belgrade University prior to the last war. After the war, he served as librarian of the Serbian Orthodox Patriarchate for a time.

The 'Chetniks' were members of the wartime anti-Communist movement, under the leadership of General Draza Mihajlovic, whom Tito executed when he came to power.-ED.

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PROTESTANT INSTITUTE INAUGURATED FOR STUDY OF EASTERN ORTHODOXY. Bishop Otto Dibelius of Berlin, head of the Evangelical Church in Germany, opened the first Protestant Institute for the study of Eastern Orthodox Churches.

The institute, attached to the Evangelical faculty of Muenster University (Germany), is sponsored by the EKID's Committee for Eastern Churches. Its director is Dr. Robert Stupperich,

Russian-born professor of church history and authority on Eastern affairs.

Activities at the institute will include lectures and seminars aimed at promoting interest in the Eastern Churches among students and the general public. Special attention will be devoted to studying religious life in Eastern Europe.

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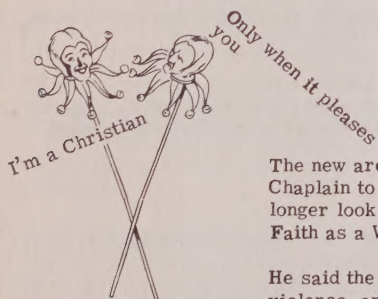
4th CENTURY CHRISTIAN CHURCH DISCOVERED IN ISRAEL. Discovery of the oldest Christian church ever excavated in Israel was announced by the Israeli Antiquities Department.

It said the church was uncovered in the village of Shavei Zion on the Mediterranean coast. An inscription on one of its stones sets the date of construction of the basilica-type church during the reign of Emperor Constantine the Great in the 4th century.

Said to be one of the greatest of such discoveries in recent times, the church measures 80 by 50 feet. Its extensive mosaic floors are believed to be far older than anything preserved in Nazareth or Jerusalem.

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AUSTRALIAN ARCHBISHOP WARNS WEST TO 'LIVE' ITS RELIGION. Archbishop Francis Wood, speaking after his enthronement in St. Paul's Cathedral, Melbourne, Australia, as the 5th Anglican Archbishop of that diocese, gave an ominous warning that in the eyes of the seething millions of India, China and Africa, Western Christianity is not a harbinger of peace and goodwill, but is synonymous with hypocrisy.



The new archbishop, formerly bishop of Middleton, England, and Chaplain to Queen Elizabeth II, said that not only does the East no longer look to the West for leadership, but has labeled the Christian Faith as a Western 'importation', which it will resist.

He said the peoples of the East regard Europe as a cesspool of violence, an evidence of Christian activity, where 'unspeakable atrocities', far outstripping ancient Rome in enormity and cruelty for the fabulous atrocities for which Rome, and some modern savages, were and are capable of. He pointed out that many European wars, as well as the Crusades, were promoted by religion and that in the last 50 years two wars of great savagery had been perpetrated on mankind - 'wars more devastating and terrible than any before in history'.

'These have been committed by a nation which might well have claimed to be intellectually the most advanced in the world. No wonder that the East no longer looks to the West for leadership.'

The archbishop blamed materialism for causing the 'masses of what was once a 'Christian' Europe to lose contact with the Church and to become themselves objects of evangelism'.

'Possibly the most sinister of all the thought forces of the rising generation, even in the so-called Christian countries, are such as to make the great Christian concepts almost unintelligible'. words as 'salvation, atonement, miracle, sacrament, grace, redemption, sacrifice', he said, 'an explanation to our generation, as if they were come from an alien culture....Theology, once queen of the sciences, is held to be intellectually barely respectable'.

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SERBIAN PATRIARCH ORDAINS MACEDONIAN PRIESTS & ABOLISHES PARISH COUNCILS. Four Macedonians were ordained as priests by Patriarch Vikentije of the Serbian Orthodox Church in ceremonies at Vavedenye monastery, near Belgrade. They are the first Macedonian ordinands since the war.

The Macedonian Church recently agreed to end a schism with the Serbian Church. It had refused

recognize the Patriarch and because of this no priests had been ordained and three Macedonian bishoprics have remained vacant.

Under the terms of the agreement, the Macedonian Church will be permitted to use the Macedonian language in sermons and church administration and to omit the word 'Serbian' in the Church's title. However, the Patriarch rejected a demand that native Macedonians be appointed to the vacant bishoprics. Patriarch Vikentije is formally administering the Macedonian Church until the new bishops and a new archbishop of Skopje are elected. The elections are expected to take place at the spring meeting of the Serbian bishops.

The new archbishop of Skopje will succeed Metropolitan Josef, who died last July at the age of 79.

As another move, the Patriarch, backed by the Serbian Orthodox bishops Synod, temporarily dissolved all consultative councils of parishioners.

The act was strenuously opposed by the Orthodox Priests' Ass'n., who immediately issued a statement in which they charged that the act 'removes the last remnants of democracy from the Serbian Orthodox Church'. They also called it a 'violation of the Serbian Church constitution' and said it 'eliminates the people and priests from participating actively in church life'.

Parish boards, councils or committees are traditional in all Eastern Orthodox Churches and only in cases of hierarchical autocracy have they ever been limited or abolished. - ED.

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JORDAN PERMITS ORTHODOX ARABS TO ENTER JERUSALEM FOR CHRISTMAS. The Jordanian government granted permission for 1,322 Christian Arabs from Israel to enter Bethlehem for the Eastern Orthodox Christmas celebrations on January 7th. The permits were valid for two days.

The Holy Nativity Church, on the site of the traditional manger of Christ's birth, is an Eastern Orthodox Church, in which the yearly services are held.

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GREEK KING HONORS GREEK ORTHODOX BISHOPS. Greek Orthodox Archbishop Theodosios of Athens and All-Greece was invested with the Grand Cross of the Royal Order of King George I, during a special audience with King Paul.

Metropolitan Panteleimon of Thessaloniki, a member of the World Council of Churches' Central Committee, was decorated with the Grand Cross of the Royal Order of Phoenix. Nine other Greek Orthodox Metropolitans also were awarded high decorations.

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GREEK ORTHODOX PRELATE DIES. Seven bishops officiated at funeral rites for Greek Orthodox Metropolitan Demetrius of Ionnina, who died of a heart attack at the age of 77. The services took place at St. Athanasios' church in the western city.

One of the most highly regarded prelates of the Greek Church, Metropolitan Demetrius left a will instructing that all his property, valued at around \$35,000, be used for the support of welfare institutions and the building of a school in his native village.

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TOP RUMANIAN LEADER BURIED WITH RELIGIOUS RITES. For the first recorded time in Communist-dominated Eastern Europe, a top government leader was buried with full religious ritual.

Reports from Bucharest Radio stated that Dr. Petru Groza, Chief of State in Rumania, was interred after an 80-minute service, conducted by Patriarch Justinian of the Rumanian Orthodox Church. Assisting the patriarch, were Metropolitans Justin Moldova and Colan of Transylvania.

and numerous bishops, priests and archdeacons.

Premier Groza, who died at 72 after a stomach operation, had served from 1919 to 1927 as a deputy in the Synod and Congress of the Rumanian Church. Altho he espoused the Communist cause, he was never a member of the Communist Party.

The services were attended by the principal Communist leaders and members of the government.

It was recalled that Dr. Groza had once said to the previous Patriarch, Nicodim(deceased a few years ago), that 'the Church is an institution with permanent usefulness in the life of the people. It is a part of the State itself, keeping pace with the spirit of the times. The Orthodox Christian Church, having always understood this, will surely understand it at this time'.

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GREEK CHURCH CONSECRATES SIX NEW BISHOPS. Six new bishops were consecrated bringing the episcopate of the Orthodox Church in Greece to its full quota of 66 members.

The new prelates are Metropolitan Constantine Poulos of Didymoteichon, Gabriel Kalokairin of Thera, Chrysostom Zervas of Karystos and Titos Matheakis of Paramythia (Epirus); Auxiliary bishop Chrysostom Themelis of Athens and All Greece; and Titular bishop Chrysostom Venetopoulos of Kernitsa. All were formerly archimandrites.

Bishops Alexius of Evripi and Dionysios of Roghion, formerly assistants to Archbishop Theoklitos of Athens, meanwhile were named Metropolitans of Zante and Kozani, respectively.

Metropolitan Constantine, 45, succeeded Bishop Ioachim, who died two months ago. He had served since 1941 as Vicar General and special preacher in the diocese of Akarnanea. Metropolitan Gabriel, 47, replaced Bishop Georgios, who had been transferred to the diocese of Aegion and Kalavreta.

Metropolitan Titos, formerly vicar of the church of St. Panteleimon, Athens, is a brother of Metropolitan Timothy of Komotini. He succeeded Metropolitan Dorotheos of Thebes, who was transferred to the diocese of Thebes, replacing Metropolitan Polycarpus, who resigned due to advanced age.

Metropolitan Chrysostom Zervas succeeded Bishop Ananias, who died recently. He had served for 35 years as Vicar General in the diocese of Chalkis, where he founded and organized many charitable institutions, including an orphanage in which 150 boys are housed.

Auxiliary bishop Chrysostom Themelis was formerly chief secretary of the Holy Synod of the Orthodox Church. He is author of 18 books and pamphlets dealing with the history of the church. He will serve in his new capacity in the district of Piraeus and will have the rank of Titular Bishop of Thaumakos.

Titular bishop Chrysostom Venetopoulos will serve as assistant to Archbishop Theoklitos of Athens. He had previously been Vicar General of the diocese of Ioannina.

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DOMESTIC



EPISCOPALIAN GIVES LAND FOR NEW CATHOLIC CHURCH. A Protestant Episcopal layman donated 15 acres of land to a new Roman Catholic congregation in Mt. Vernon, N.J., so that it could build a new church.

The gift by Allan P. Kirby, president of Alleghany Corp. offered the \$33,000 property to the newly formed Christ the King Roman Catholic parish, which had been holding services in the local firehouse.

The minister of the Presbyterian church in Mt. Vernon expressed support of the idea by saying that such actions showed forth the great ideal of freedom of religion.

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DEPARTMENT STORE TO HOLD ANNUAL 'TITHE' DAY. A leading department store in Nashville, Tenn., 'Harvey's', has inaugurated a yearly one-day event, during which 10% of all sales will go to the church or synagogue designated by the buyer.

The idea, conceived by Fred Harvey, owner of the store, was arrived at after he had received letters and phone calls from churches asking for donations. He said he realized it took a lot of courage to enter into such requests for donations and 'I saw a chance in which we could help all churches thru individual members of the congregations'.

Mr. Harvey designated the Monday preceding Thanksgiving Day of each year as the day when the 'tithe all sales' will be held. He said the store has so notified the clergy of 950 places of worship in the middle Tennessee trading area, by means of a personal letter from his office.

The plan allows for each individual purchaser, on that day, to indicate on the reverse of his or her sales ticket the name and address of the specific place of worship to which the specified 10% of the sale will be sent by Harveys.

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SOVIET CITIZENS RECEIVE 50,000 CHRISTMAS 'CRECHES' FROM U.S.I.A. The U.S. Information Agency provided 50,000 cardboard cut-outs in the January issue of 'Ameryka', a Russian-language magazine, which the agency publishes for distribution in the USSR. Readers are given instructions on how to assemble the manger scene.

The January issue was devoted entirely to a description of how Americans celebrate Christmas. The American embassy in Moscow supervises the distribution of the 50,000 monthly; which is sold principally thru Soviet newsstands. In return, the Soviet distributes a similar illustrated magazine in the United States.

The reason the cut-outs were in the January issue, rather than the December, was because the Orthodox Church celebrates Christmas on January 7th. - ED.

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'MAKE' CATHOLIC CHARITY HALTED BY QUICK POST OFFICE ACTION. Chief Inspector D.H. Stephens disclosed in a special report to Postmaster General Summerfield that his

Office had been able to bring a fake Catholic charity so quickly to a halt that the mail campaign had only taken in \$8.00 before being arrested to face charges for using the mails to defraud.

The 'charity' was using the name of 'The Handicapped Brothers of St. Jude Thaddeus'. Operating the mail solicitation was Julius D. Kahn of San Jose, Calif. He had been mailing out a sn Crucifix and chain and asking for donations.

- The public should be cautious of all such mail campaigns - many exposures of similar activities have been made in the Presses from time to time. - ED.

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FIRST ENGLISH MASS CELEBRATED IN ROCHESTER. The first Mass to be celebrated in English in Rochester, N.Y., was offered at the Melchite Rite Church of St. Nicholas.

It was celebrated by Msgr. Andrew Hallak, who said permission to use English was given by the Papal Patriarch of Antioch in deference to the fact that 90% of the church's members neither speak nor understand the Greek or Arabic in which St. Nicholas' Masses have heretofore been chanted.

Msgr. Hallak explained the Melchites are responsible to the Pope in matters of faith and discipline, and not Eastern Orthodoxy, but are under a Papal Patriarch of Antioch, not the Orthodox Patriarch of Antioch, in matters of liturgy and ritual.

St. Nicholas parish was founded some 50 years ago by 15 immigrant Syrians.

- Pope Pius XII recently decided that traditional Latin should be continued in all the Latin Rite Roman Catholic Churches, rather than the vernacular. - ED.

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U.S. POST OFFICE ISSUES RELIGIOUS LIBERTY STAMP. A three-cent stamp, honoring religious liberty, was issued formally on Dec. 27th, 1957. The Bible is its central theme.

The stamp actually commemorates the 300th anniversary of the Flushing Remonstrance. This was a protest by citizens of Flushing, N.Y., against an edict by Dutch Governor Peter Stuyvesant banning Quakers. It is thought to be the earliest declaration of religious liberty by ordinary citizens in American history.

The new stamp has the Bible in the center, next to it is a pilgrim-type hat symbolic of the people of that day, and an inkwell and quill pen symbolizing 'men's determination to speak the truth thru the written word'.

Stuyvesant had angrily rejected the Remonstrance when it was first presented to him on Dec. 29th, 1657, and had imprisoned Sheriff Tobias Feake for having the temerity to hand it to him. Later, he was obliged to withdraw his resistance and finally permitted freedom of worship for all sects in the Dutch colony.

Postmaster Summerfield, who spoke at Bowne House, center of the Flushing Remonstrance, said: '...the belief of these early settlers...(showed)...that the government has no authority over the realm of ideas'.....he stated that 100,000,000 of the stamps would be put in circulation.

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ORTHODOX STUDENT SOCIETY OF ST. PHOTIUS FORMED. Princeton University, N.J., was the scene last month of the first meeting of a campus organization of Orthodox students.

Biweekly services in a transept of the great University chapel will be the place where the newly formed Society of St. Photius will convene. The first service was December 7th. The Greek priest of Perth Amboy, N.J. is serving as Chaplain, and is recognized as such by the American Review of Eastern Orthodoxy

iversity.

- The formation of similar Orthodox student bodies on American campuses is truly a proper way in aiding in the growth of understanding and the development of greater religious character. (It is to be noted that among the Roman Catholics, Bishop G.J. Rehring of Toledo, O., said in a pastoral letter that Roman Catholic students at all 'non-Catholic' schools are 'obliged' to become active members of Newman Clubs) Forcing of students into Orthodox societies would, however, be not only undemocratic, but also un-Christian. - ED.



IN THE COURTS



AMERICAN BAR ASS'N SEEKS LEGISLATION TO TAX CHURCH INCOMES. Properties rented by churches, or businesses acquired by them thru the use of borrowed funds, could be taxable under a proposal to be made before Congressional committees by the A.B.A.

Mr. I. Park, chairman of the association's Section of Taxation, said his group would seek to amend the Internal Revenue Code to prevent 'abuses now prevalent'. He said other charitable groups, such as hospitals-schools, are barred, at present, from 'lending their exemption to other parties'. A clarification of this approach was explained by noting that a growing number of persons were lending businesses or funds to churches in order to benefit their personal tax status.

In short, the recommendation will apply only in the case of rented property or acquired business, which a church or group of churches obtained thru borrowed funds.

Not long ago, hearings before the tax study committee of the Arizona State Legislature disclosed that 'tax-dodging' property deals were being made to church groups. In this, business men were seeking to give property to a church and then donate part of the tax saved, yearly, to the church, also. As a result, the state attorney general's office has alerted county assessors and attorneys of the violation of exemption laws. The result has brought about placing of certain church-owned properties back on the tax rolls. That churches should engage in such chicanery is a direct violation of the very precepts they supposedly stand for. - ED.

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N.Y. STATE COURT OF APPEALS UPHOLDS OUSTER OF MELISH. The removal of Rev. William H. Melish as rector of the Episcopal Church of the Holy Trinity, Brooklyn, N.Y., was unanimously upheld by the Court of Appeals, the highest tribunal of N.Y. State.

In the decision, Rev. Melish and adherents were ordered to cease any interference with the church, its services and property. Thus concluded nearly eight years of bitter struggle and controversy between the pro-Melish forces and those of the Episcopal Bishop DeWolfe, Garden City, Long Island, N.Y.

Rev. Herman S. Sidener, the Bishop's appointee to the Church, was thus constituted as legal

and proper Rector of Holy Trinity parish. He previously, during the controversy, had been involved in a series of skirmishes and was reported by Religious News Service to have been 'floored during a scuffle', this at a coffee break following a service.

The feud between the two factions has been in the news off and on since 1948, and more especially in 1949, when the Rev. Melish's father, Rev. Dr. John H. Melish, was removed as rector of the church because of his son's asserted leftist activities.

Arguments before the Court of Appeals centered on whether the selection of a rector is an ecclesiastical or temporal matter. The anti-Melish forces claiming that such a matter is purely an ecclesiastical matter; canon law permitting a bishop to pass over any minor defects in the selection process by simply designating a new rector.

In commenting on this, the Court of Appeals held that the canon law was alone applicable, and that the Religious Corporations Act of New York, while 'irrelevant' to the case, makes clear that a majority of the vestry has the power to call a rector, regardless of membership wishes.

- Apparently, this confirms other Court decisions of former times and places, that internal affairs of a religious body must be determined within that body itself, according to its own religious regulations, and not by civil authority. - ED.

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RACKETEERING IN RELIGION. The following three instances of arrest, criminal indictment and legislative inquiry should serve as danger flags to churches and members of churches - ED.

'Bishop' Louis Tousana was arrested, following joint efforts by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Brooklyn, N.Y. Chapter, and the Brooklyn Racket Squad. Upon presentation in Brooklyn Felony Court, the 'Bishop' was held in \$25,000 bail for the grand jury on charges of grand larceny by false representation. Kings County District Attorney stated that the 'Bishop' had admitted raking in over \$200,000 in the last 12 years. Methods, which the D.A. characterized as 'voodoo-like practices to mulct the poor and gullible and prostitute their religious instincts'.

- Methods employed, according to printed reports, included ways of ending a husband's nagging by stitching a triangle on a piece of cloth; curing asthma by capturing evil spirits in a jar; insuring pregnancy by lighting a candle in a dish of sugar. Tousana admitted the use of the word 'bishop' was a self-conferred title. - ED.

The formal indictment of a Bucklin, Mo. printing firm, by a St. Louis Grand Jury, has brought to light a scheme of fraud perpetrated on church and fraternal groups. The defendants, G.A. King and W.C. Kienast, doing business as Tri-State Printers, were charged with bilking customers of more than \$250,000. The method employed, in this case, was a sales approach made to churches to get them to solicit advertisements from business men for a 'church directory', which Tri-State would print for them. In this way, the various churches sold 'ads' and collected money, which was paid for the 'directory'. The only trouble was that the 'directory' would never be delivered. The Federal Trade Commission made the investigation of alleged misrepresentation, which in turn led to the indictment.

A California State Assembly sub-committee inquiry into California 'clergy diploma mills' has brought into public view that a multitude of organizations are flourishing throughout the State. Assemblyman Sheridan Hegland of La Mesa charged that 'thousands of illegitimate diplomas have been and are being issued by diploma mills'. Governor Goodwin J. Knight said that in some cases doctor of divinity degrees are being offered for two dollars - he explained: 'Holders of such diplomas are legally empowered to perform marriages, officiate at funerals and even solicit funds for non-existent churches'.

- To be forewarned is to be forearmed. - ED.

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MAN CATHOLIC BISHOP SUED FOR 'DEFAMATORY REMARKS'. Bishop Pietro Fiori of Prato, near Florence, Italy, was ordered to stand trial on charges of defaming the character of a newly married couple.

plaintiffs are a local Communist and the daughter of a Catholic family. The couple had refused to be married in church and went thru a civil ceremony.

Simony at a preliminary hearing brought out that when the bishop learned the girl was planned to be married in a civil ceremony, he urged her to change her mind, pointing out that such marriage is not valid in the eyes of the Church.

The couple revealed that they ignored this plea and that the bishop then sent a letter to Father Lanza, pastor of Santa Maria Soccorso parish, where the couple lived. The letter gave the priest orders to publicly name the two as 'public sinners'. The priest, accordingly, read the letter at Masses for several days; the court action was commenced thereafter. The bishop had earlier declared the couple to be 'living in concubinage' and that the public announcement had been given as 'a warning to the faithful'.

According to the bishop's definition of marriage, nearly two billion of the total population of the world is 'living in a state of concubinage'. - ED.

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CHURCH-STATE ISSUE GOES TO APPELLATE DIVISION OF N.Y. SUPREME COURT. The continuing legal controversy over the \$205,000,000 Lincoln Square redevelopment project in New York City's West Side has entered a new phase with the issuance of an order requiring the city to show cause why it should not be stayed from acquiring and reselling land in the projected area. The order was issued by Supreme Court Justice Charles D. Breitel of the N.Y. Appellate Division.

A request for the 'stay' was made by a group of taxpayers who are opposing the project. One of the principal objections of the group is that Fordham University (a Jesuit - Roman Catholic institution) will be acquiring land in the area at 'a direct subsidy in excess of \$3,500,000'; the subsidy to be made up by American taxpayers throughout the country, from Federal funds. The reason for the subsidy is that the land is being condemned at more than \$16 a square foot and being resold to Fordham University at \$7 per square foot. This is a net loss to taxpayers of \$9 per square foot.

If the 'stay' is granted, it will bar transfer of the property until the Appellate Division can rule on appeal from the recent Supreme Court's decision dismissing a taxpayer's suit against the Lincoln Square redevelopment project. In that decision, which was handed down last month, Judge Owen J. Givern rejected the contention that resale of the land to Fordham at less than acquisition cost would violate the principle of Church-State separation. The judge had declared that such use of blighted property did not involve any 'gift or subsidy' to Fordham.

An interesting comparison, an Eastern Orthodox Church, in the same area, was refused the permission, by the Slum Clearance Committee of the City, to remain in the redevelopment. An interesting question is thus posed: 'Why should a Roman Catholic institution be allowed to buy up such an area, when an existing Church of another denomination is expelled'?

* * * * *

SLIP-UP REMARK BY CLERGYMAN CAUSES A 'MISTRIAL'. Rev. R. Frank Crawley of the First Methodist Church in Decatur, Georgia commented, in a sermon, on a \$186,000 embezzlement trial of a woman employee of four physician-employers. His comment, made in the presence of one of the trial jurors, who was attending the Sunday night service, was reported to the court by the grand jury foreman, who was also present.

Frank Guess declared a mistrial, on motion from defense counsel. The defendant is ex-

pected to be retried in February. The judge added that the trial juror was blameless and it 'just one of those things' that he had chanced to hear the remark during the trial's week-end recess. He also declared, however, that the remark was damaging to the traditional presumption of innocence on the part of the defendant until proven otherwise.

The defendant is accused of taking some \$186,000 during the 2½ year period that she served as bookkeeper and business manager of a clinic operated by the four physicians. Their gross incomes in that period were reported at the trial to be about \$1,000,000.

The clergyman had remarked, in jest - he claimed, that instead of the woman being on trial for taking money, it appeared that the physicians might be on trial for making that much money.

* * * * *

JURISDICTION OVER RELIGIOUS PROBLEMS DEBATED IN CANADIAN SENATE. Does the Federal Government of Canada, or that of the Provinces, have jurisdiction over questions involving religious freedom? This was the question.

The debate ran into considerable controversy on the floor of the Senate in Ottawa, Canada. Opinion was divided, mostly along religious affiliation lines of the debaters. Senator Jean-Francois Pouliot of Quebec (a Roman Catholic Province) declared that religious liberty is a matter for the control of each Province. This view was rejected by Senator Arthur Roebuck of Ontario (largely a non-Catholic Province), who said the Fathers of Confederation never intended that religious freedom should be placed under provincial jurisdiction.

Senator C.G. Power of Quebec said he believed the people of Quebec would never have accepted the British North America Act, if they had thought their rights to language and religion were not to be a matter of the local Province.

The issue had arisen when Senator Pouliot criticized decisions of the Canadian Supreme Court setting aside rulings of Quebec courts involving the Jehovah's Witnesses sect. The Supreme Court has upheld the right of Jehovah's Witnesses and all other religious groups in Canada to absolute freedom of worship, assembly and conscience.

* * * * *

THE ORDER OF 'EAGLES' GIVING MONOLITHS OF TEN COMMANDMENTS. Throughout the country, the Eagle lodges are busy distributing multi-colored prints of the Ten Commandments; in addition, some 50 granite monoliths, five and six feet tall, weighing up to a ton, are being placed in conspicuous public places about the USA.

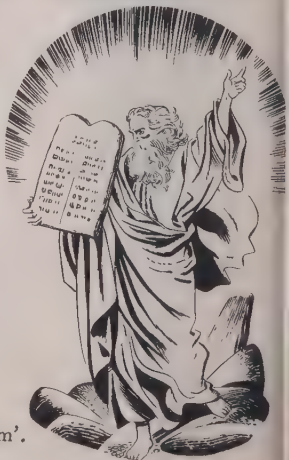
The reason? In 1946, a husky, tall, 16-year old youth stood defiantly before a juvenile judge in St. Cloud, Minnesota, and awaited his sentence for a driving violation that had caused a serious accident.

On the bench was E.J. Ruegemer, now a district judge. Speaking to the lad, the judge inquired of his family, friends and of his obligation to society; and that actions, not in accord with the Ten Commandments, were immoral.

The youth asked: 'What are the Commandments?'

The judge was appalled; he took down his Scripture and read them to the lad - he then pronounced sentence: 'I sentence you to learn the Ten Commandments by heart and to obey them'.

The youth obeyed and became a respected, reliable employee in a large Minnesota. Impressed



by the impact of the Commandments on the youth, the Judge conceived the idea of a far-reaching and strengthening project for young people: - the preparation and distribution of multi-color prints of the Commandments to be placed in court-rooms everywhere, where the judges might then point out to offenders the transgressions they had committed.

The producer, Cecil B. DeMille, suggested the monoliths for key public places, such as school grounds, courthouse lawns and public parks. Judge Ruegemer has even more plans: and is a 250,000 copy distribution of a 96 page booklet on 'God's Commandments'.

In a recent interview, Cecil B. DeMille, 76, stated that 'God works thru men. There isn't anyone who cannot do something towards spreading the fatherhood of God, and the brotherhood of Man, Gospel'. He elaborated: 'The credit ...should go to my father and mother (for his achievements). They were both great teachers. My father was a lay preacher in the Episcopal Church. Every night he would read us a chapter of the Old and New Testaments. His dramatic genius stirred me and the Biblical scenes came to life, became pictures and paintings that stayed in my mind.' He added that when 'People marvel and run from sputnik and cry in alarm...they question the miracles of God and they doubt if He is as powerful and the Russian scientists'. - ED.

* * * * *

JUDGE DISMISSES ORTHODOX SYNAGOGUE SUIT. Circuit Judge Drechsler, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, County Court, dismissed a suit by four members of Congregation Beth Israel, who had accused the officers and trustees of wasting congregation money and assets, and of trying to force the rabbi, Harold Baumrind, to adopt unorthodox practices allowing mixed seating on men and women.

The dismissal was on stipulation between the litigants and their attorneys. In agreement, the plaintiffs agreed to have the rabbi dismissed with a severance settlement of \$5000 and all other charges to be dropped.



'A little oil helps ailing joints'

* * * * *

RABBI, HOLDING SERVICES IN HIS HOME, HAILED TO COURT. Rabbi J. Leiner, 70 years of age, of Brooklyn, N.Y. was served a summons for failure to obtain a 'certificate of occupancy' necessary for holding of public services. He had held a service at which 15 persons had been present.

In court, the rabbi was declared to be an Orthodox Jew, an authority on Talmudic Law and author of several books and articles. He stated he was too old to walk to the nearest synagogue and couldn't ride, because it was the Sabbath.

• A case in which a law - giver failed to 'fulfill the law'. - ED.

* * * * *

ITALIAN COURT DECLARES CATHOLICISM HAS 'SPECIAL STATUS'. Italy's Constitutional Court, highest in the land, upheld the validity of an article in the Italian penal code, which provides heavier sentences for offenses against the Roman Catholic Church than against other Catholic cults.

The tribunal said the provision was constitutional in view of Article I of the 1929 Lateran Treaty between Italy and the Vatican defining 'Catholicism' as the religion of the State, an

affirmation which is included in Article 7 of the Italian Constitution.

'The Catholic Church has a different situation from other religious organizations', the con-
said, 'because of the ancient, uninterrupted tradition of the Italian people belonging almost
entirely to Catholicism'.

Article 7 of the Constitution asserts that 'the State and the Catholic Church are each in their
own spheres independent and sovereign'. Article 8 proclaims the equality of cults and pro-
vides for the establishment of agreements between the State and non-Catholic cults.

* * * * *

RELIGION vs LAW, or THEOLOGY vs JURISPRUDENCE. These are the themes of a
series of recent and forthcoming conferences among lawyers, law students, and professors
of law.

Last April a small group of lawyers, theologians, law students and seminarians met in the
town of Whitinsville, Mass. to consider the application of Christian faith in the daily work
law practice. Sponsored by the United Student Christian Council and the Faculty Christian
Fellowship, participants included students and faculty from the law schools of Harvard-Yale
Columbia-N.Y.U.-Univ. of Georgia-Vanderbilt-U. of Chicago-Southern Methodist. The
meeting was described as 'a preliminary step in a projected three-year program of the
National Council of Churches among law students and faculty'. A feature of the sessions was
the presenting of four papers dealing with problems confronting lawyers as Christians. The
papers are appearing in the publication: 'The Christian Scholar'. Their titles: 1. 'Theology
Jurisprudence' 2. 'The Effect of Religious Principles on Lawyers' Ethical Problems' 3. 'The
Christian Lawyer as a Public Servant' 4. 'The Christian Lawyer as a Churchman'.

Sept. 7-10, 1958 was designated as the time; the University of Chicago Law School as the place
the event to be the first nationwide meeting of law students, faculty and lawyers on 'The Ch-
ian Vocation of the Modern Lawyer'. In preparation for this event, a New York attorney,
William Stringfellow, will make a tour of more than a third of the nation's law schools in the
coming months to acquaint students and faculty with the forthcoming conference and to give
introductory approach to the relation between religion and law.

From another approach, Prof. Edmond Cahn of N.Y.U. Law School, recently proclaimed at
Harvard University Law School, in a lecture, that the ethical and humanitarian implications
the law have 'begun to rival the messages and preachings of religion'. This, he said, poses
major challenge to religion. Adding that 'the law often equals and occasionally surpasses re-
ligion in the quality of its announced faith and practical works', he contended that religion and
'stand rigidly apart and the gulf between them grows ominously wider.....and....religion in
America is approaching and soon must confront a great and unnoticed crisis'. 'Religion and
law will remain distant from each other, distrustful and alienated, until men reach the point
knowing.....that both creation and revelation in the cosmos and in the law are incomplete, ceas-
ing and continuous'.

The religious trend in which the law is surpassing religion, Prof. Cahn said, may constitute
threat not only to the future of organized religion, but also to law and the administration of
justice. 'In a democratic society like ours, law is tethered to the opinions and moral stand-
ards of the general public, and if religion fails to lead and edify these the advancement of law will
inevitably suffer'.

Prof. Cahn said further that when a lawyer looks for the churches' stand on freedom, justice
and fraternity for all peoples, he finds that they have the same views as a century ago. And
when a lawyer tries to bring harmony and understanding among men or groups, he finds that
sectarian teachers and textbooks have cancelled his work, because they have been erecting
barriers in the minds of the children. In addition, the churches 'are complacently content to
vouch for theological and ethical notions that would cause embarrassment if they were ex-
pressed and taken seriously in a secular setting' and that thereby they evidence very little
leadership when it comes to Negro rights-public school education - better housing and employ-
ment conditions - - - in fact, the courts and the law set the example in these fields, when
religious leaders should be doing it.



The Star of the Wisemen

Part II

Contrasting the spiritual approach, given in Part I of this article (see December issue), with the literal and scientific, one is brought face to face with a series of historical findings and interpretations. Many of these are far older than Christianity and come from other traditions.

For instance, the ancients believed in 'signs', by which prophecies could be issued. Who is not familiar with the 'Oracles'? Who has not heard of the practice of 'Divination'?

These practices, just mentioned, developed popular centres and elaborate rituals. Animal divination is mentioned in the Homeric poems, wherein auguries of the flight and actions of birds were commonly observed. Sophocles, in *Antigone*, tells of the method of Teiresias, who studied the cry and flight of birds and drew forth omens. Plutarch tells of the sacred fish, kept in a tank at the temple of Apollo at Surra in Lycia, where omens were taken from the movements of these fish; he also mentions a grove dedicated also to Apollo, where the priestess could predict the harvest by the eating habits of sacred serpents kept there.

The Oracle of Zeus at Olympia was often sought out because the soothsayers there could prophesy by inspecting the entrails of an animal, and also by signs revealed when they cut or burned the entrails of the same.

Another method was that of the prophecy based on what might accidentally be heard. Example: One desirous of prophecy would approach a shrine of Hermes, kindle a votive candle, place a money offering on the altar, whisper his desire in the ear of the statue, then depart hence, holding his hands tightly over his ears. A little distance away, the hands would be removed from the ears and the first words heard uttered by any passerby would then be the sign or omen of what was the answer to the query.

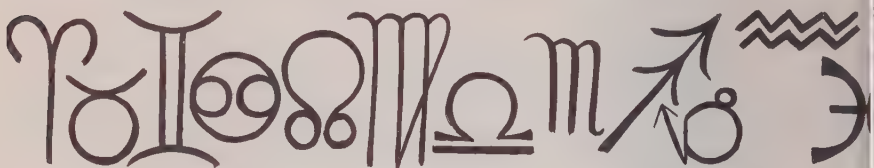
In the world of Nature, omens were taken by going to 'sacred streams' or 'talking oaks'. At these places, the seeker would relax beside the stream, or under the oak, and the sounds of the water, or of the swaying boughs and rustling leaves, would then form sounds to be interpreted. Thunder, lightning, drawing of lots were other methods.

Turning to human oracles, we also find the human body, usually a woman, was used as an oracle. The famed 'Delphic Oracle' would have a woman, known as the Pythia, who would serve as the medium of inspiration. She would chew the sacred leaves of the laurel, then drink from the sacred prophetic stream, called *Kassotis*...she would then be seated upon the sacred tripod, where she could then be inspired by a sacred vapour that supposedly arose from a fissure in the ground. In this state, she would then pass thru a series of convulsions, similar to epilepsy, and would fall into a trance. In this state, vocal murmurings would emanate from her, which would be written down, in metric style, by the holy ones, who sat around the tripod. These would then be given to the one asking.

At Claros, the prophetess would drink the blood of a lamb to produce an oracle. The lamb would have been prepared the night before by being used as the blood sacrifice in a ritual to Apollo. The effluvia from the ritual offering passing into the lamb - the prophetess drinking it could then utter the answer to questions submitted, for the spirit of the God would reveal itself thru the media. At Claros, the same practice was used, but here only with sacred water, after a

lengthy period of fasting. Ecstatic revelation being the state the prophet would pass into, before revealing the spoken oracle.

Turning to the last method of divination, which is pertinent to this article, we come to that 'Astrology'. Astrology, as a developed part of early Astronomy, was found useful as far back as Babylon. Since those early days, it has found active users in nearly every nation and part of the world, even unto this very day. In Babylon, two methods were available to the priests 'divination': 1. Astrology 2. Dissection of the liver of a sacrificed animal.



All the ancients believed that the heavenly bodies (sun, moon, planets, stars) were Seats of the Gods. They further believed that all affairs of the earth (Nature and Man) were at the mercy of these Gods. Accordingly a system of governance by these heavenly bodies, of the earth and its creatures, was built up. The heavenly bodies received Divine Names: Planet Jupiter became Marduk; Venus became Ishtar; Saturn became Ninib; Mercury became Nebo; Mars became Nergal; the Moon became Sin; and the Sun became Shamash. The Babylonian priests cataloged heavenly phenomena and the interpretation of it. The movements, relations one to another, and peculiarities of each heavenly body (or God) was noted. Association of known past events, with the category of planetary characteristics soon developed a system for interpretation of coming events. The priests also extended their computations to the constellations, designating two of them as separate influences, equally divided into 30 degrees, thru which the course of the Sun had to pass in a given year. The precession of the equinoxes was also known; and among the Greeks a system was developed to erect horoscopes based on the probable date of conception of the individual, rather than merely on his birthdate. The Arab astronomers adopted the Kabbalistic lore of Jews and Christians embodied it. As time passed, everything that had existence found itself being categorized under one or another of the planetary influences. The minerals, plant life, animal life, colors, etc. all were designated as belonging to this influence or to that influence. The individual of society then began to fall into place - his organs, body, mind, fate and soul were all stored up under aspects of these same influences. The Egyptians had the body divided into 36 parts, corresponding with 36 influences, each controlled by a separate aspect of God (or different God, according as to how one interprets it).

Even our Calendar felt the influence - each day being given to the influence of a separate heavenly body: Sunday to the Sun; Monday to the Moon; Tuesday to Mars (God 'Tiw'); Wednesday to Mercury (God 'Woden'); Thursday to Jupiter (God 'Thor'); Friday to Venus (God 'Frig'); Saturday to Saturn.

Man, being a superstitious creature by nature, could not help himself from being bound up by these systems, and in the priestcraft which controlled them. We know, from the New Testament, that each and every Man shall be a priest of God and God's Word shall become manifest in the heart of each individual. But, in the early days of Evolution, Man had yet to attain unto the stature necessary for such an Incarnation to take place in him - known commonly as the 'Second Coming'. So, in those days, Man interpreted all that happened in a supernatural light. For instance, three examples of the worship of 'heavenly bodies' (actually, they are meteorites) 'Cybele', mother of Gods, is a stone which fell in Phrygia, in Asia Minor. The 'Black Stone' in the southwest corner of the Kaaba, at Mecca, is known to have been venerated for 1200 years. The meteorite, known as the Casas Grandes iron meteorites of some 4000 pounds, was found wrapped in mummy cloths, in an old Mexican tomb ruin.

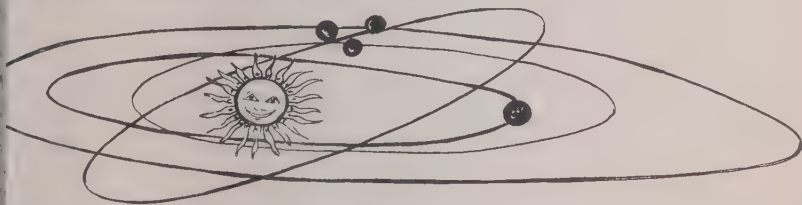
Heavenly bodies, then, are not new to Man - nor, is it unusual to find him worshipping them, fearing them, watching them for 'signs'. With this in mind, look at the time of Man, 2000 years ago. See, in your mind's eye, three Magi (Wise-men), who either had one of three events happen to them: 1. They saw a visible heavenly body 2. They had a 'visible' manifestation occur

for them (such as the angels that appeared to Abraham) 3. They were students of astrology, (Magi) of the ancient culture, and saw a 'sign', a 'star' as it were, of a coming event.

These three avenues open, we having briefly explored the second possibility, in Part I of this article, the other two need dealing with.

Comets, known as 'fireballs', have often been suggested as being what the Magi saw. Others could have been a comet ('hairy star'). Then there is the idea it could have been a 'nova'. A 'nova' is not really a star that has just come into being, but is more likely one that exploded - by this act, it may increase many thousands of times, in brilliance, in a single night. Such manifestations have been recorded so bright that they can be seen shining in the sky with the sun. Such a 'nova' was observed in 1604 by Johann Kepler, a German astronomer. He gave rise to the idea that such an explosion of a star might well have been the 'Star of Bethlehem'. Let us look at his concept.

We have heard of the famed Italian astronomer, Galileo, who based his teaching on that of the great Copernicus, regarding the solar system and the rotation of the earth. The Holy Church attacked him for this and he was forced to recant, that, which every school child knows to be true. His punishment was to say the seven penitential psalms, once a week, for three years. Regardless of this sidelight, however, Kepler knew of the movement of the planets, from the illustrious Copernicus and Galileo.



Kepler found that Mars circles the sun in about 30 years; Jupiter nearly 12 years; Saturn nearly 30 years. It is commonsense, then, that Jupiter will pass Saturn from time to time, actually about every 20 years. The term used for the moment of 'passing' is 'conjunction'. Kepler observed a 'passing' or 'conjunction' near the end of 1603. Before time had allowed them to separate widely, Kepler saw Mars, the fastest of the three planets in question, also come into conjunction with the other two. Thus, three planets were all grouped together in the heavens, at the same time. As Kepler looked thru his telescope, he observed far back of conjunction a bright star, or what is called a 'nova'.

Explaining the phenomena of the three planet 'conjunction', Kepler found that it occurs every 60 years. It is easy to see that this 'conjunction' might well have taken place at about the time of the 'Star of the Wisemen'. He theorized that such a 'conjunction', plus a supernova, could have been the visible, heavenly star that had been seen. Scientifically, it might well have been possible, altho no recorded writings of the authors of that day even mention any special heavenly body.

Exploring this possibility, and with the background of 'prophecy from omens and astrology' that is outlined above, we are faced with a choice. A choice of one of the three points outlined as to what the 'Star' must have been.

The three Wise-men, known by tradition to be astrologers and astronomers, might also have known of such heavenly occurrences; their writings not being extant today. Usually, in those days, their teachings were given orally, from mouth-to-ear. If this were the case, they might have referred to the heavenly 'conjunction' as being a gathering of the Gods, foretelling a 'Divine Event'. Thus, not being too willing to divulge their priestly secrets, they

might well have said they saw a 'Star in the east'. We know, scientifically, that the 'conjunction' of 6 B.C. was not visible to the ordinary eye, inasmuch as it took place in the proximity of the Sun and thus could be seen only in daylight and only then if you knew what you were looking for. The Wise-men, being astronomers, knew what they were looking for - translating the event into 'interpretation' they could have arrived at a 'prophecy' of the 'birth of a King'. With this in mind, they would have journeyed to the land of the Jews, not led by a physical star, but by an interpretative star that they had diagnosed thru the methods they employed. As they left the land they could well have again seen new 'signs', thru interpretation, and rejoiced. Or, they might have had a 'Divine' manifestation of 'Light' shine over the place where the Child was, much in the same fashion that the Shepherds saw the 'Light' in the fields.

How does one arrive at the time of the year that this might have taken place? Astronomy tells us the 'conjunction' took place in late February, 6 B.C. We know that lambing of sheep is in the early Spring. The Wise-men, having possibly become aware of the 'conjunction' in the month of February, might have arrived at their understanding of it and journeyed some way from their land to Israel. This would move the appointed time up to March or April. This could account for the shepherds in the field, for the only time they went to the fields, in the lands, at night, was during 'lambing time'.

The early Church Fathers taught that Christmas was really at the Epiphany (Baptism of Jesus) because, they claim, at that time the 'manifestation' of God took place in Jesus, as Christ 'only-begotten'. Epiphany occurs January 6th in the Church Year. Where then, December 25th?

In Persia, December 25th was the Nativity of 'Mithra', the Sun-King. The Caesar, Aurelian, in 275 AD, designated December 25th as the 'Nativity of the Sun'. Among the English of the 9th century, December 25th was 'Mother's Night'. The Yule Log came from Scandinavia, where it was a symbol of the celebration of Man and God (Odin) coming in contact, in the period from December 25th to January 6th.

One can say, with some little authority, then, that December 25th, as Christmas, is not the actual birth day of Christ, but has been adopted from the various pagan sources, to 'fill the gap' so to speak in their cultures, when they changed over to Christianity. One's own conclusions may be drawn from the foregoing facts and interpretations, insofar as the 'Star of the Wise-men' is concerned.

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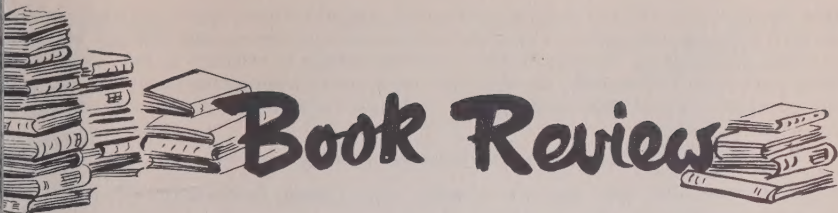
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Book Review

ATORIAL HISTORY OF PROTESTANTISM' - by Vergilius Ferm - Philosophical Library, N.Y. 368 pp. Cloth bound \$10.00.

Excellent collection of varied illustrations, ranging from drawings-paintings-maps-photos-illigraphic reproductions of early works. Including studies of Protestantism in Western Europe and the United States, this book is invaluable to every Sunday School Library for the use of the teacher. Seminaries and Colleges may also well profit from its acquisition, the excellent source material may prove its value many times over - not so much for the use as for the enormous effort put into bringing together visual evidence of the individuals, their lives and works, who made up the pageant of 500 years of Protestantism. It is indeed a recommended work.

Essential to quote a bit, at random, from the introduction by the author, in order to catch the perspective of his approach to this study.

Protestantism means fundamentally, then, eternal vigilance against all the forces which enslave the human spirit.....It means protesting not alone against Catholicism but a protesting against any form of Protestantism itself which usurps power over individual conscience and against the spirit of freedom in the realm of man's inner life.....It means reforms, if necessary, going to the roots, of its own traditions.....the Protestant spirit essentially is a battle-name against unwholesome infringements (be they of creeds, councils, books, catechisms, theology, ecclesiastical polity, confessions, heroes) against the onmoving forces of the spirit of life it-

THE GREAT PRINCE ... ST. VLADIMIR' and 'My Church and My Faith' - 34 pages, paper 75¢, 50¢ - compiled by Rev. Nicholas Fedorovich; published by the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of USA, South Bound Brook, N.J.

This is a thumb-nail sketch of St. Vladimir, Prince of Ukrainia, converter to Christianity of the Slavs. Canonized by the Eastern Orthodox Church for his apostolic work in the Kievan Empire, his Feast Day is commemorated on July 15th, the anniversary of his death on that day in 1015 A.D.

The second half of the booklet deals with the Orthodox Faith and, while very heterogeneous in makeup, it effects a presentation of many aspects of Orthodoxy in a few pages. For the person interested in adding to the variety of an English language section in his library, it is well the money spent.

CHRISTIANS IN THE ARENA' - by Allan A. Hunter - Fellowship Publications, Box 271, Lakewood, N.Y. 108 pp. paperback \$1.50.

Quoted from the book: 'The true stories of eight contemporary men and women who have fought a living faith in the gospel of love to bear against the two great evils of our time - Communism and totalitarian tyranny.'

Along with the lives of various European leaders of resistance against evil, in various forms, the reader will find himself moving from one concentration camp to another, and from one hot spot of 'conscience testing' to another. In the end, one will realize that what these eight lives

have summed up is the fact that men and women, the world over, fight back when pressed the wall. Whether ones calls it the spirit of freedom, conscience, God, justice - it is there and finds light thru the individuals who are plucky enough to evidence it. For, as we well there were many in authority, whose voices were never raised against pogroms, persecu war or other forms of Man's barbarism. - A book for a thoughtful person to peruse.

'MEDITATIONS ON THE NICENE CREED' - by Ileana, Princess of Romania - Mor Gorham, N.Y., N.Y. 144 pp., paperback \$1.85.

A delineation of the meaning of the Symbol of Faith of the 1st and 2nd Ecumenical Council the Christian Church, held respectively in Nicaea(near Constantinople) in 325 A.D. and in great Constantinople itself in 381 A.D.

Article by article, twelve in all, the authoress takes the reader thru a combined historical mystical interpretation of the themes embodied in each. Whether the reader will personal benefit depends to a degree on the emotional-spiritual and intellectual response that may aroused on reading the sometimes abstract, sometimes parabolic, trend of the text. No d the authoress tends to express her spirit in interpreting many phases of the Church and it beliefs and teachings and this is evident in some instances - notably in her constant use of expression 'Holy Ghost'. It is only among emigrees and unknowing translators that this W ern expression is used - the true translation being 'Holy Spirit'. However, the book has v in the library of a seminary, a church or clergyman and presents some facets of thought t are useful.

Anthology of Serbian Literature in Hundred Volumes

An Anthology of Serbian Literature is under process in Yugoslavia. To be published in on hundred volumes, this great undertaking will include all the more important works of Ser ian literature from the Middle Ages to the present. Each year will see the release of ten volumes, five in the fall and five in the spring. The first five volumes were published in time for the 2nd International Book Exhibition, held in Belgrade last November 2nd-6th.

The first five volumes contain: 1.An Anthology of Folk Stories and Poems 2.Memoirs of Matija Nenadovic 3.Works of Stephan Mitrov Ljubisa 4.Selected Works of Branislav Nusic 5.Works of Jovan Ducic.

The five volumes to be released in the spring of 1958 will include: 1.Jovan Sterije Popovic Works(2 volumes) 2.Jovan Jovanovic Zmaj 3.Poetic Works of Rastko Petrovic and those of 4.Momcilo Nastasijevic.

BIBLIOGRAPHY OF YUGOSLAV BOOKS AND MANUSCRIPTS

A National Bibliography of Yugoslav books and manuscripts is in process and will cover a period of 480 years, from the publication of the first incunabulum in 1474 to 1954. Already, 115,000 books and manuscripts have been recorded and ultimately it is expected that some 260,000 titles will be embraced in the project.

Libraries outside Yugoslavia are asked to aid in this work by furnishing compilations of any works in their possession, which may have been published outside Yugoslavia but have Yugoslav authorship. Yugoslav bibliographers will reciprocate when occasion arises.

NEW ISSUE OF »YUGOSLAVIA« MAGAZINE

Of additional interest to American librarians is the 'Yugoslavia' magazine, of which the 14th number has been released. The magazine is available in five languages, including that of English. The magazine is devoted solely to Yugoslav art and culture - the latest issue dealing with paintings, of which 377 reproductions are included - fifty-two in full color - in addition, there are seven essays dealing with Yugoslav paintings.

CALENDAR days
January 1958

Hypapante or Pre-
sentation of Christ in
Temple - also the
Feast of the Publican
and the Pharisee

Sts. Simeon and
Anna

Sunday of Prodigal
Son

Sunday of Second
Coming

Sunday of Mutual
Forgiveness

Western Easter being the
first of April; Orthodox
Easter being the 13th of
May in this year of 1958.

CALENDAR days of
the month will in groups
be observed, every other month
except A.E.O.

February

	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	

January

	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14				
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	

The CALENDAR days
January 1958

1st - Circumcision of
Christ, and Commem-
oration of St. Basil
the Great

5th - Sunday Before
Epiphany

6th - Epiphany Day
(Baptism of Christ)

7th - Commemoration of
Saint John Baptist

12th - Sunday After
Epiphany

17th - St. Anthony Great

18th - Sts. Athanasius and
Cyril, Patriarchs

22nd - St. Timothy the
Apostle

25th - St. Gregory the
Theologian

30th - The Three Hier-
archs: Basil Great,
Gregory Theologian
and John Chrysostom



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forge ahead

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